WARREN – Today, Congressman Ryan (OH-17) announced grants totaling \$220,995 for three local agencies through the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security. In the current round of funding, the Bazetta Fire Department will receive \$83,508; the Austintown Fire Department will receive \$85,655; and the Mogadore Fire Department will receive \$51,832.

"This is great news for our local communities," Congressman Ryan said. "Our firefighters and first responders put their lives on the line every day, and ensuring their safety is of the utmost importance to local municipalities. This federal funding is essential – filling gaps in municipal budgets during an economic downturn. And I will continue to push for this funding as long as our local governments struggle to provide the resources needed to ensure the safety of the brave men and women in our fire and police departments."

The AFG program awards grants directly to fire departments and EMS organizations to enhance their ability to protect the health and safety of the public – as well as that of the first-responder personnel. Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders to obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards. For more information, visit the program's website.